

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/086 W

-----037631 230109Z /63

R 221505Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AEMBASSY BONN 696
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4953

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E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, WB
SUBJECT: BERLIN SENAT PREPARED TO PICK UP ADDITIONAL COSTS
FOR ALLIED RESCUE FLIGHTS TO BERLIN

REF: (A) USBERLIN 1881, (B) BONN 11750, (C) USBERLIN 1901,
(D) BONN 11975

SUMMARY. BERLIN SENAT HAS DECIDED TO SUBSIDIZE ALLIED RESCUE
FLIGHTS, BUT DEUTSCHE RETTUNGSFLUGWACHT (DRW) HAS SAID NON-
THREE POWER RESCUE FLIGHTS TO SCHOENEFELD MAY STILL BE
NECESSARY. END SUMMARY.

1. SENAT ON JULY 19 DECIDED TO MAKE UP ON A CASE-BY-CASE
BASIS THE PROVABLE ADDITIONAL COSTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HIRING
ALLIED AIRCRAFT FOR RESCUE FLIGHTS TO BERLIN'S TEMPELHOF AND
TEGEL AIRPORTS RATHER THAN REGULAR RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS USING
FLIGHTS TO EAST GERMAN AIRPORT AT SCHOENEFELD. (TEXT OF
SENAT VERMERK POUCHED BONN.) ACCORDING TO SENAT CHANCELLERY,
SENAT WILL PICK UP THESE SUPPLEMENTAL COSTS ONLY FOR WEST
BERLINERS WHO ARE SEVERELY ILL OR INJURED AND SHOULD BE
TRANSPORTED TO BERLIN OR FOR CASES IN WHICH SUITABLE MEDICAL
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TREATMENT IS AVAILABEL ONLY IN WEST BERLIN. PROGRAM IS TO
BE CARRIED OUT FOR INITIAL PERIOD OF NOE YEAR. THE MONETARY
LIMIT EARLER FORESEEN (REFTEL A) FOR SENAT CONTRIBUTIONS
ON RESCUE FLIGHTS (30 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL RESCUE FLIGHT COST OR
10,000 DEUTSCHE MARK) WAS STRICKEN FROM FINAL SENAT DECISION.
NEVERTHELESS, ACTING CHIEF OF SENAT CHANCELLERY (DIEDRICH)
ADMITTED SENAT MIGHT HAVE SOME DIFFICULTIES WITH REQUEST

FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR RESCUE FLIGHT WHICH WOULD INVOLVE VERY HIGH COSTS, FOR EXAMPLE, ONE FORM HONG KONG.

2. SENAT ALSO AGREED TO PICK UP 7050 DM EXTRA COST INCURRED IN FEBRUARY 10 DAN AIR RESCUE FLIGHT TO TEGEL FROM TEL AVIV ARRANGED BY DEUSCHE RETTUNGSFLUGWACHT.

3. SENAT HAS CLARIFIED SOME OF REASONS ALLIED AIRCRAFT ARE, IN ITW VIEW, OFTEN MORE COSTLY THAN SWISS OR FRG ONES FOR RESCUE FLIGHTS: ALLIED AIRCRAFT REGULARLY EMPLOYED IN BERLIN SERVICE ARE LARGER THAN THOSE NEEDED FOR RESCUE FLIGHTS; ALLIED AIRCRAFT NOT STATIONED IN BERLIN OR FRG MUST TRAVERSE LONGER ROUTES THAN FRG/SWISS PLANES, INCREASING OPERATION COST OF AIRCRAFT AND TIME FLIGHT CREWS MUST BE ON DUTY. FURTHER, SWISS AND GERMAN PILOTS SOMETIMES FLY WITHOUT PAY FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS, WHILE ALLIED PILOTS MAY NOT.

4. SENAT ACTION WAS COVERED IN BERLIN PRESS JULY 20. COMMUNIST DIE WAHRHEIT PREDICTABLY CRITICIZED "ANTI-GDR" ACTION WHICH WOULD COST WEST BERLIN TAXPAYERS MORE MONEY.

5. IN JULY 21 INTERVIEW ON RIAS, SPOKESMAN FOR DRW (KOEHLER) SAID RESCUE FLIGHTS TO BERLIN WOULD USE TEGEL AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, DESPITE THE SENAT SUBSIDY, THERE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE USE OF SCHOENEFELD BY NON-THREE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POWER RESCUE FLIGHTS BECAUSE ALLIED AIRCRAFT NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

6. ONE STEP WHICH MIGHT INCREASE "AVAILABILITY" OF ALLIED PLANES WOULD BE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTRACTS BETWEEN DRW AND SUCH ALLIED SERVICES AS ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE (UK) AND L'EUROPE ASSISTANCE (FRENCH), AS WELL AS BERLINAIR, IF LATTER ESTABLISHED HERE. SUCH CONTRACTS WOULD FACILITATE AVAILABILITY, WE THINK. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BERLIN TRIPARTITE MATTERS, AIR SEARCH & RESCUE, RESCUE OPERATIONS, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL01927
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770263-0019
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770727/aaaaawuy.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e1d6f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USBERLIN 1881, 77 BONN 11750, 77 USBERLIN 1901, 77 BONN 11975
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1769886
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BERLIN SENAT PREPARED TO PICK UP ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR ALLIED RESCUE FLIGHTS TO BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, EAIR, WB
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e1d6f264-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009